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PAGE 01 BEIJIN 16325 01 OF 04 170852Z  
ACTION EAP-00

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INFO	LOG-00	ADS-00	INR-07	EUR-00	SS-00	CIAE-00	DODE-00
	H-01	NEA-06	NSCE-00	NSAE-00	SSO-00	HA-09	L-03
	TRSE-00	PM-10	AIT-02	PA-01	OMB-01	INRE-00	SP-02
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FM AMEMBASSY BEIJING  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE 0931  
INFO USIA WASHDC IMMEDIATE 8492  
AMEMBASSY BANGKOK IMMEDIATE  
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AMEMBASSY MOSCOW IMMEDIATE  
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USCINCPAC HONOLULU HI IMMEDIATE  
AIT TAIPEI IMMEDIATE  
AMCONSUL CHENGDU POUCH)

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 01 OF 04 BEIJING 16325

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CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 BEIJIN 16325 01 OF 04 170852Z

SUBJECT: TFCH01: SITREP NO. 55, JUNE 17, 1600 LOCAL

1. CONFIDENTIAL - ENTIRE TEXT.

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2. SUMMARY. XINHUA IS GETTING CONSIDERABLE PROPAGANDA  
MILEAGE OUT OF TOM BROKAW'S INTERVIEW WITH STATE  
COUNCIL SPOKESMAN YUAN MU. IN RESPONSE TO A QUESTION  
ON ZHAO ZIYANG, YUAN SAID, "A CERTAIN INDIVIDUAL IN  
THE TOP LEADERSHIP ERRED IN SUPPORTING RIOTS. THE

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8

PROBLEM WILL BE DEALT WITH AND MADE PUBLIC SOON." DISCUSSING FANG LIZHI, YUAN SAID THE CHINESE GOVERNMENT IS "CLOSELY FOLLOWING FURTHER DEVELOPMENTS. WE HOPE THAT THE U.S GOVERNMENT WILL DEAL WITH THIS MATTER DISCREETLY." YUAN REPEATED THE STANDARD PROPAGANDA ON THE JUNE 3/4 ATTACK ON TIANANMEN. YUAN SAID DENG RECENTLY STATED THAT "CHINA HAS NOT GONE FAR ENOUGH IN OPENING TO THE OUTSIDE WORLD AND THAT CHINA WILL CONTINUE TO ABIDE BY THIS POLICY....WITHIN THE GUIDELINES OF THE SOCIALIST SYSTEM." SEVERAL PEOPLF'S DAILY ARTICLES TODAY REVIVED VITRIOLIC CRITICISM OF VOA AND FANG LIZHI. FOREIGN REPORTERS WERE TAKEN ON A TOUR OF TIANANMEN SQUARE JUNE 16 TO VIEW CLEAN-UP EFFORTS. MOST CENTRALLY ADMINISTERED BEIJING COLLEGES STARTED SUMMER VACATION AHEAD OF SCHEDULE WHILE 18 COLLEGES UNDER THE BEIJING MUNICIPAL GOVERNMENT ARE EXPECTED TO RETURN TO NORMAL ON MONDAY. PAP GUARDS AT THE JIANGUOMENWAI DIPLOMATIC COMPOUND ARE APPARENTLY USING WALKIE-TALKIES TO MONITOR THE MOVEMENTS OF AT LEAST SOME EMBASSY PERSONNEL. FINLAND HAS AGREED TO GO AHEAD WITH A VISIT OF A DELEGATION FROM THE CHINESE SUPREME PEOPLE'S COURT IN MID-JUNE. END SUMMARY.

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PAGE 03 BEIJIN 16325 01 OF 04 170852Z

3. SIGNIFICANT MEDIA PLAY OF YUAN MU INTERVIEW WITH TOM BROKAW

XINHUA IS GETTING CONSIDERABLE PROPAGANDA MILEAGE OUT OF TOM BROKAW'S 40 MINUTE INTERVIEW WITH STATE COUNCIL SPOKESMAN YUAN MU, BILLED LOCALLY AS BROKAW "GETS THE TRUTH" FROM YUAN MU. THE INTERVIEW WAS BROADCAST IN FULL, INCLUDING TRANSLATION OF BROKAW'S RATHER POINTED QUESTIONS, BY CCTV AT 12:30 PM JUNE 17, AND THEN AGAIN LATER IN THE AFTERNOON. THE FOLLOWING ITEMS ARE NOTABLE:

--ON ZHAO ZIYANG, YUAN SAID, "A CERTAIN INDIVIDUAL IN THE TOP LEADERSHIP ERRED IN SUPPORTING RIOTS. THE PROBLEM WILL BE DEALT WITH AND MADE PUBLIC SOON...IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE PARTY CONSTITUTION."

--ON WHETHER CHINESE AUTHORITIES WOULD FORCEABLY ARREST FANG LIZHI IN THE EMBASSY, YUAN SAID THAT CHINA IS "CLOSELY FOLLOWING FURTHER DEVELOPMENTS. WE HOPE THAT THE U.S GOVERNMENT WILL DEAL WITH THIS MATTER DISCREETLY." YUAN ADDED THAT FANG WOULD BE DEALT WITH ACCORDING TO CHINESE LEGAL PROCEDURES AND "PUNISHMENT WOULD BE METED OUT ACCORDING TO LAW."

**UNCLASSIFIED**  
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8

--YUAN REITERATED THAT NO CASUALTIES RESULTED FROM THE CLEARING OF THE SQUARE BY TROOPS, NO ONE WAS CRUSHED UNDER THE WHEELS OF ARMORED VEHICLES, AND REPORTS OF A "BLOODBATH" ARE "GROUNLESS" AND "NOT RIGHT." HE ADMITTED THAT "SOME THUGS DIED AND SOME ONLOOKERS WERE ALSO KILLED OR WOUNDED...THE PLA SUFFERED HUGE CASUALTIES." HE SAID THAT OVER 5,000 PLA SOLDIERS

CONFIDENTIAL

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PAGE 01 BEIJIN 16325 02 OF 04 170853Z  
ACTION EAP-00

INFO	LOG-00	ADS-00	INR-07	EUR-00	SS-00	CIAE-00	DODE-00
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CONFIDENTIAL SECTION 02 OF 04 BEIJING 16325

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PAGE 02 BEIJIN 16325 02 OF 04 170853Z

SUBJECT: TFCH01: SITREP NO. 55, JUNE 17, 1600 LOCAL

WERE WOUNDED, OVER 2,000 CIVILIANS (INCLUDING THUGS AND ONLOOKERS) WERE WOUNDED, AND LESS THAN 300 PEOPLE WERE KILLED WITH PLA ACCOUNTING FOR ABOUT HALF.

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--THE CHINESE "GOVERNMENT HAS THE RIGHT TO TAKE ALL NECESSARY STEPS TO PREVENT SUBVERSION. THIS IS ENTIRELY AN INTERNAL AFFAIR OF THE SOVEREIGN NATION AND NO OTHER COUNTRY HAS THE RIGHT TO INTERFERE."

--THE INITIAL STUDENT DEMONSTRATIONS IN APRIL WERE "CORRECT IN HOPING THAT THE GOVERNMENT AND PARTY CAN ELIMINATE CORRUPTION, BUREAUCRATIC PROFITEERING AND WORK TO ENHANCE DEMOCRACY AND LEGAL SYSTEM AND DEEPEN REFORM." THE GOVERNMENT NEVER REGARDED "THE VAST NUMBER OF STUDENTS AS RIOTERS, BUT IT IS INDEED A FACT THAT THERE ARE SOME RIOTERS AMONG THE STUDENTS."

--"A FEW COUNTER-REVOLUTIONARY REBELS" GOT "MIXED UP WITH THE STUDENTS" AND "PUT FORWARD PROGRAMS AND CHANTED SLOGANS FOR OVERTHROWING THE LEADERSHIP OF THE CHINESE COMMUNIST PARTY AND FOR SUBVERTING THE SOCIALIST REPUBLIC OF THE PEOPLE. THESE HAVE BECOME THE MOTIVES AND PURPOSES OF THEIR RIOTS. THEIR SLOGANS ARE ENTIRELY DIFFERENT FROM THOSE DEMANDS PUT FORWARD BY THE STUDENTS IN THE EARLY STAGES OF STUDENTS' DEMONSTRATIONS FOR MORE FREEDOM AND DEMOCRACY." THE GOVERNMENT WILL "DRAW A CLEAR DISTINCTION BETWEEN THE VAST NUMBERS OF STUDENTS WHO HAVE PARTICIPATED IN DEMONSTRATIONS AND PARADES, THOUGH THAT IS A WRONG APPROACH, AND THE SMALL NUMBER OF THUGS WHO HAVE RESORTED TO STUDENTS' DEMONSTRATIONS

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 BEIJIN 16325 02 OF 04 170853Z

**UNCLASSIFIED**  
**CONFIDENTIAL**

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DOC\_NUMBER: 89BEIJIN16325

CHANNEL: n/a

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TO STIR UP TURMOIL AND EVEN COUNTER-REVOLUTIONARY REBELLION."

--"DIALOGUE BETWEEN THE GOVERNMENT AND STUDENTS AND PEOPLE FROM OTHER CIRCLES WILL CONTINUE." THE GOVERNMENT "WILL LISTEN TO THEIR VIEWS, ADOPT THEIR CORRECT SUGGESTIONS AND IMPROVE THE WORK OF THE PARTY AND GOVERNMENT."

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--"CHAIRMAN DENG XIAOPING MENTIONED IN A RECENT SPEECH THAT CHINA HAS NOT GONE FAR ENOUGH IN OPENING TO THE OUTSIDE WORLD AND THAT CHINA WILL CONTINUE TO ABIDE BY THIS POLICY....WITHIN THE GUIDELINES OF THE SOCIALIST SYSTEM."

--IF FOREIGNERS BECOME AWARE OF THE TRUE SITUATION THEY WILL CERTAINLY INCREASE THEIR INVESTMENTS IN CHINA. "THE CONSIDERABLE PORTION" OF " FOREIGN INDUSTRIALISTS AND ENTREPRENEURS" WHO STAYED IN CHINA TO CONDUCT BUSINESS "KNOW THAT THEIR SAFETY CAN BE GUARANTEED AND THEIR OPERATIONS CAN BE ASSURED OF NORMAL FUNCTIONING...I AM SURE THOS E PEOPLE WHO LEFT HASTILY WILL REGRET IT ONE DAY, BUT IT IS NOT TOO LATE TO COME BACK. "

--"THE OVERWHELMING MAJORING OF THE CHINESE STUDENTS STUDYING THE THE UNITED STATES WILL SURELY RETURN TO THEIR HOMELAND TO SERVE THEIR COUNTRY. I CANNOT RULE OUT THE POSSIBILITY THAT SOME OF THEM MAY NOT BE WILLING TO RETURN AND I EXPRESS REGRET ABOUT IT. PERSONALLY, I REALLY, SINCERELY HOPE THEY WILL COME BACK. I AM SURE THAT THEY WILL COME BACK."

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PAGE 01 BEIJIN 16325 03 OF 04 170854Z  
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SECTION 03 OF 04 BEIJING 16325

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CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 BEIJIN 16325 03 OF 04 170854Z

SUBJECT: TFCH01: SITREP NO. 55, JUNE 17, 1600 LOCAL

--FOREIGN JOURNALISTS WHO CARRY OUT JUST AND FAIR NEWS REPORTING AND REFRAIN FROM VIOLATING MARTIAL LAW AND OTHER LAWS WILL BEQWELL TREATED AND WILL HAVE THEIR "LEGITIMATE RIGHT TO NEWS GATHERING RESPECTED AND PROTECTED BY THE CHINESE GOVERNMENT."

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3. ATTACKS ON VOA AND FANG LIZHI RETURN

MEDIA ATTACKS ON THE VOICE OF AMERICA AND FANG LIZHI RETURNED TODAY WITH SEVERAL ARTICLES IN THE PEOPLE'S

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CONFIDENTIAL

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8

DAILY. ONE ARTICLE ATTACKED VOA BUREAU CHIEF PESSIN PERSONALLY FOR FUELING THE REBELLION AND THEREFORE CAUSING HIS OWN EXPULSION. HIS SUCCESSOR WAS WARNED TO LEARN FROM PESSIN'S MISTAKES. ANOTHER ARTICLE, REPORTING A PHONE CALL FROM SIX STUDENTS CLAIMING TO BE FORMER HUNGER STRIKERS, SAID THE TWO EXPELLED REPORTERS (PESSIN AND POMFRET) TOOK ADVANTAGE OF THE STUDENTS' NAIVETE, SIMPLICITY, AND GOODWILL TO STIR UP ANARCHISM AND VIOLENT CRIMINAL ACTS; THE SIX SUPPORTED THEIR EXPULSION. FANG WAS ATTACKED IN A FRONT PAGE LETTER FROM A BEIJING UNIVERSITY STUDENT THAT LINKED STUDENT LEADER WANG DAN WITH FANG AND HIS WIFE LI SHUXIAN AND MENTIONED AMBASSADOR AND MRS LORD AS ONCE HAVING BEEN INVITED TO GIVE A SPEECH AT A MEETING HELD BY WANG.

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4. TIANANMEN SQUARE RESTORED

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FOREIGN REPORTERS WERE TAKEN ON A TOUR OF TIANANMEN  
CONFIDENTIAL

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PAGE 03            BEIJIN 16325 03 OF 04 170854Z

SQUARE JUNE 16 TO VIEW CLEAN-UP EFFORTS. XINHUA REPORTED THAT 2,700 SQUARE METERS OF LAWNS AND 175 METERS OF HEDGES HAVE BEEN REPLANTED AROUND THE MONUMENT TO THE PEOPLE'S HEROES IN TIANANMEN SQUARE. SLOGANS AND OTHER GRAFFITI HAVE BEEN SCRUBBED OFF AND MONUMENT STEPS DAMAGED BY PROTESTORS WILL BE REPLACED. CLEANING AND REPAIR OF ZHONGNANHAI'S XINHUAMEN GATE WAS REPORTEDLY COMPLETED.

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5. UNIVERSITIES UNDER CENTRAL AUTHORITY START SUMMER VACATION EARLY WHILE CLASSES RESUME IN 18 BEIJING MUNICIPAL COLLEGES

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XINHUA CONFIRMED THAT MOST BEIJING UNIVERSITIES AND COLLEGES RUN BY CENTRAL AUTHORITIES HAVE STARTED SUMMER VACATIONS AHEAD OF SCHEDULE (STUDENTS FLED CAMPUS ES). "THESE SCHOOLS WILL SUBSEQUENTLY START NEW TERMS AHEAD OF SCHEDULE TO MAKE UP LESSONS STUDENTS HAVE LOST DUE TO THE RECENT RIOTING." 18 COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES RUN BY THE BEIJING MUNICIPAL GOVERNMENT ARE EXPECTED TO RETURN TO NORMAL ON MONDAY--THEY INCLUDE CAPITAL MEDICAL COLLEGE, BEIJING YOUTH AND POLITICS COLLEGE, BEIJING CIVIL ENGINEERING INSTITUTE, AND BEIJING EDUCATION AND ADMINISTRATION INSTITUTE.

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6. SOLDIERS APPARENTLY MONITORING DIPLOMATS' MOVEMENTS

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TWO ARMED PEOPLE'S ARMED POLICE SOLDIERS REMAIN STATIONED ABOUT FIFTY YARDS NORTH OF THE NORTHERN ENTRANCE TO THE JIANGUOMENWAI DIPLOMATIC HOUSING COMPOUND (THE ONLY ENTRANCE OPEN TO CARS). POLOFF HAS

CONFIDENTIAL

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PAGE 01 BEIJIN 16325 04 OF 04 170854Z  
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PAGE 02 BEIJIN 16325 04 OF 04 170854Z

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NOTICED OVER THE LAST COUPLE OF DAYS THAT, WHENEVER HE ENTERS OR LEAVES THE COMPOUND BY CAR, ONE OF THE SOLDIER SPEAKS INTO HIS WALKIE-TALKIE, APPARENTLY REPORTING DIPLOMATIC ARRIVALS AND DEPARTURES. IT IS NOT CLEAR WHETHER THE SOLDIERS ARE REPORTING THE MOVEMENTS OF ALL DIPLOMATS, ALL AMERICANS, OR SPECIFIC INDIVIDUALS.

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7. SUPREME PEOPLE'S COURT DELEGATION DEPARTS FOR FINLAND

FINNISH EMBOFF TOLD US THAT HIS GOVERNMENT HAS AGREED TO GO AHEAD WITH A VISIT OF A DELEGATION FROM THE CHINESE SUPREME PEOPLE'S COURT. THE DELEGATION DEPARTS FOR HELSINKI TODAY, JUNE 17. EMBOFF EXPLAINED THAT THE FINNISH GOVERNMENT, WHICH HAS CRITICIZED THE JUNE 3/4 MASSACRE, IS TRYING TO BE "NEUTRAL."

MINIMIZE CONSIDERED. LILLEY

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